THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Tours organised by ITDC

4642. SHRI K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to State:

(a) the details of steps taken by the Government to construct more dormitories to attract middle class domestic tourists in the tourist centres in the country;

(b) whether regular tours are conducted by ITDC buses to Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to State Government for construction of Yatri Niwases, Yatrikas and Tourist Lodges having dormitories to meet the requirements of budget tourists.

(b) and (c) I.T.D.C. operates daily conducted tours from Madras to Tirupati. It covers darshan at Balaji Temple and Laxmi Temple in Mangapuram.

New Airport near Cochin

4643. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for shifting or making new airport near Cochin on account of paucity of space; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) The construction of a new airport near Cochin is not a feasible preposition both because of the non-availability of suitable land as well as the very high cost of the project.

Cost Over Runs of Mejia and Chamera Power Projects

4644. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the latest estimated costs of the Mejia thermal power project and the Chamera Hydro Electic Project;

(b) whether there is any cost over runs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to commission these projects on revised cost estimates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d) A. Mejia Thermal Power Project—The revised estimated cost of the Mejia Thermal Power Project (3×210 MW) of the Damodar Valley Corporation is Rs. 1134.00 crores (at August '89 base). There is a cost over-run of Rs. 568.00 crores over the original estimated cost of Rs. 566.00 crores (March '86 base).